

## CLAIMS

I/we claim:

1. A stirring stick for manipulating foodstuff in a blender, the stirring stick comprising:
  - an elongate plunger having first and second ends, the plunger having a cavity extending between the first and second ends such that at least a portion of the plunger is generally trough-shaped, the cavity being open at least at the second end; and
  - a handle attached to the first end of the plunger, such that a user may move the stirring stick in one or more directions when the stirring stick is positioned in the blender.
2. The stirring stick of claim 1 further comprising a scoop attached to the second end of the plunger, the scoop being shaped to guide foodstuff into the cavity.
3. The stirring stick of claim 2 further comprising a plunger tip attached to the scoop, the plunger tip having a scraping edge.
4. The stirring stick of claim 1 wherein the handle has an opening which is in fluid communication with the cavity, such that foodstuff may enter the cavity through the opening.
5. The stirring stick of claim 1 wherein a top portion of the handle is generally semi-spherical in shape.
6. The stirring stick of claim 1 further comprising a collar disposed between the first end of the plunger and the handle, the collar having a diameter size which is substantially larger than a diameter of the plunger.

7. The stirring stick of claim 6 wherein the collar is generally disc-shaped.
8. The stirring stick of claim 6 wherein the collar is generally frustoconical.
9. A blender for blending foodstuff comprising:
  - a base containing a motor;
  - a blender jar releasably attached to the base, the blender jar being open at a top end and closed at a bottom end;
  - a blade set drivingly connected to the motor, the blade set extending into the blender jar from the bottom end;
  - a lid covering a substantial portion of the top end of the blender jar, the lid having an opening extending therethrough; and
  - a stirring stick extending through the opening in the lid and into the blender jar from the top end, wherein the stirring stick comprises:
    - an elongate plunger having first and second ends, the plunger having a cavity extending between the first and second ends such that at least a portion of the plunger is generally trough-shaped, the cavity being open at least at the second end; and
    - a handle attached to the first end of the plunger, such that a user may move the stirring stick in one or more directions when the stirring stick is positioned in the blender.
10. The blender of claim 9 wherein the stirring stick further comprises a scoop attached to the second end of the plunger, the scoop shaped to guide foodstuff into the cavity.

11. The blender of claim 10 where the stirring stick includes a plunger tip attached to the scoop, the plunger tip having a scraping edge.
12. The blender of claim 9 wherein the handle has an opening which is in fluid communication with the cavity, such that foodstuff may enter the cavity through the opening.
13. The blender of claim 9 wherein a top portion of the handle is generally semi-spherical in shape.
14. The blender of claim 9 wherein the stirring stick further comprises a collar disposed between the first end of the plunger and the handle, the collar having a diameter which is substantially larger than a diameter of the opening in the lid.
15. The blender of claim 14 wherein the collar is generally disc-shaped.
16. The stirring stick of claim 14 wherein the collar is generally frustoconical.